

# Morbidity and Mortality

Weekly Report

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE  
PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE

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Prepared by the COMMUNICABLE DISEASE CENTER MEIrose 4-511

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PROVISIONAL INFORMATION ON SELECTED NOTIFIABLE DISEASES IN THE UNITED STATES AND ON DEATHS IN SELECTED CITIES FOR WEEK ENDED JANUARY 27, 1962

**INFLUENZA** - Epidemics of respiratory disease attended by increased school absenteeism are currently prevalent throughout the Midwestern and Southeastern States. Following the first Midwestern identification in Missouri and Southern Illinois, epidemic Influenza B spread to involve Eastern Kansas, Western Kentucky, Central Tennessee, and North Georgia. This week, in addition to further spread within these States, a marked increase in reported outbreaks has occurred in the neighboring States of Ohio, North Carolina, Arkansas, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Iowa, North Dakota, and Nebraska. On the periphery of this epidemic activity, scattered outbreaks were noted in South Carolina, Alabama, Indiana, Wisconsin, Oklahoma, and Texas.

Scattered outbreaks of acute febrile respiratory disease were noted in the Northeastern United States. Increased school absenteeism and/or respiratory disease outbreaks were observed in Southern Maryland (three counties), New Jersey (eight counties), Pennsylvania (two counties), Connecticut (two counties), Massachusetts (two counties), Vermont (two counties), and New York (two counties).

The epidemic has waned in the Pacific Coast States and is evidencing little spread in the Rocky Mountain area.

Influenza B has now been confirmed by virologic isolation or serologic titer rises in outbreaks in 18 States and the District of Columbia. Additional States reporting

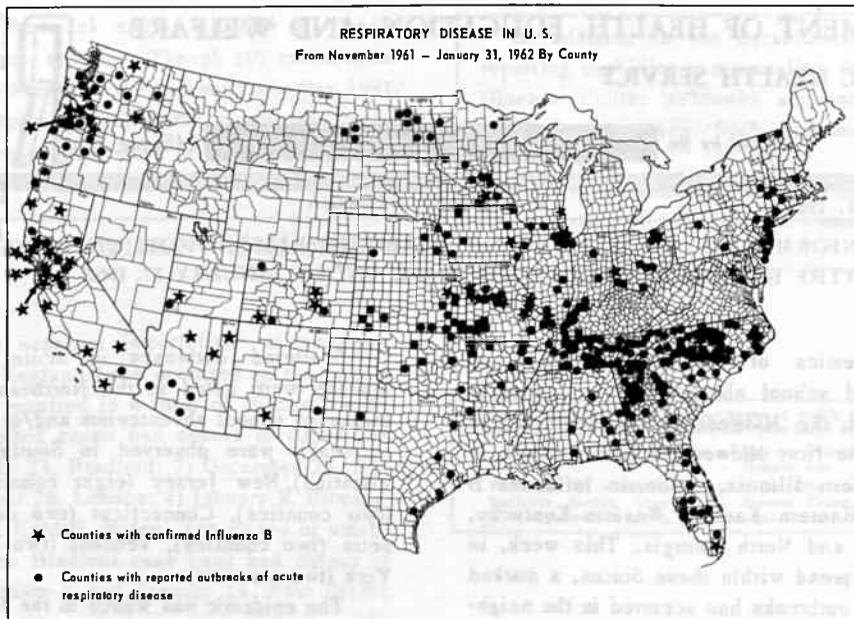
Table 1. CASES OF SPECIFIED NOTIFIABLE DISEASES: UNITED STATES  
(Cumulative totals include revised and delayed reports through previous week)

Disease	4th Week			Cumulative		
	Ended	Ended	Median 1957 - 1961	First 4 weeks		Median 1957 - 1961
	January 27, 1962	January 28, 1961		1962	1961	
Aseptic meningitis.....	17	26	---	55	90	---
Brucellosis .....	1	7	10	22	30	43
Diphtheria .....	9	22	22	49	94	94
Encephalitis, infectious.....	20	22	25	85	87	87
Hepatitis, infectious and serum.....	1,508	1,851	574	5,626	6,123	1,953
Measles .....	10,621	9,414	9,432	31,411	32,523	32,523
Meningococcal infections.....	41	52	52	192	212	219
Poliomyelitis, total.....	3	8	34	29	41	87
Paralytic.....	2	5	29	16	23	48
Nonparalytic.....	-	2	2	5	6	28
Unspecified.....	1	1	3	8	12	11
Streptococcal sore throat and Scarlet fever .....	8,516	9,707	---	30,382	34,413	---
Tetanus .....	3	---	---	6	---	---
Tularemia .....	4	---	---	30	---	---
Typhoid fever .....	8	11	11	22	30	48
Typhus fever, tick-borne, (Rocky Mountain spotted).....	1	---	---	2	---	---
Rabies in Animals .....	56	55	79	227	197	319

Table 2. NOTIFIABLE DISEASES OF LOW FREQUENCY

Anthrax:  
Botulism: Ky. - 1  
Malaria:  
Plague:

Psittacosis: Wis. - 1  
Rabies in Man:  
Smallpox:  
Typhus, murine:



confirmations this week include Ohio, Minnesota, North Carolina, Wisconsin, Kansas, Iowa, and Utah. No evidence of Influenza A activity has yet been uncovered.

Deaths from pneumonia and influenza in 108 United States cities remain elevated above expected levels for the fourth consecutive week (see accompanying graph, page 27). Excess mortality this week is recorded in three of the nine geographic divisions of the country.

Epidemics of respiratory disease confirmed as Influenza B are occurring in Poland, Spain, Denmark, and the United Kingdom.

**HEPATITIS** - A total of 1,508 cases was reported for the 4th week ending January 27, a decrease of 72 cases over the number reported in the preceding week. For the corresponding 4th week of 1961, 1,851 cases of hepatitis were reported. The interruption in the continuous rise in hepatitis cases at this early date in 1962 would suggest that the number of hepatitis cases in 1962 will be lower than the total of 72,000 reached in 1961.

**POLIOMYELITIS** - Three cases of polio, 2 paralytic, were reported for the week ending January 27. This equals the record low of 3 cases, 3 paralytic, which were reported for the week ending February 25, 1961.

#### EPIDEMIOLOGICAL REPORTS

##### **Clostridium Food Poisoning - Connecticut, 1961**

Three outbreaks of *Clostridium perfringens* food poisoning occurred in Connecticut during the year 1961. The last occurred on December 5, 1961, and is described below.

Approximately half of 68 people who had dined at a restaurant developed mild diarrhea and abdominal pain of a few hours duration within eight to 14 hours after eating. In a few cases, nausea occurred but there was no vomiting. Of the 68 individuals, 38 ate roast beef, 18 ate broiled lobster, 9 ate turkey, and 3 ate picked-out lobster. Of the 26 with illness, 21 had eaten roast beef, four had eaten turkey, and one had eaten lobster.

Five roasts of beef, boned by the wholesale meat distributor, and averaging about 18 lbs. in weight, were used for this meal. These were cooked for about 3 hours in a 350° oven, coming out of the oven at about 4:15 P.M. Some were then kept on the steam table and some beside the steam table until used at 7:30 P.M. Gravy was au jus gravy made at about 5:30 P.M. from the drippings of the roasts, a commercial beef base and seasonings. Drippings from the roasts were also used to moisten some of the turkey when it was removed from the refrigerator and warmed for use.

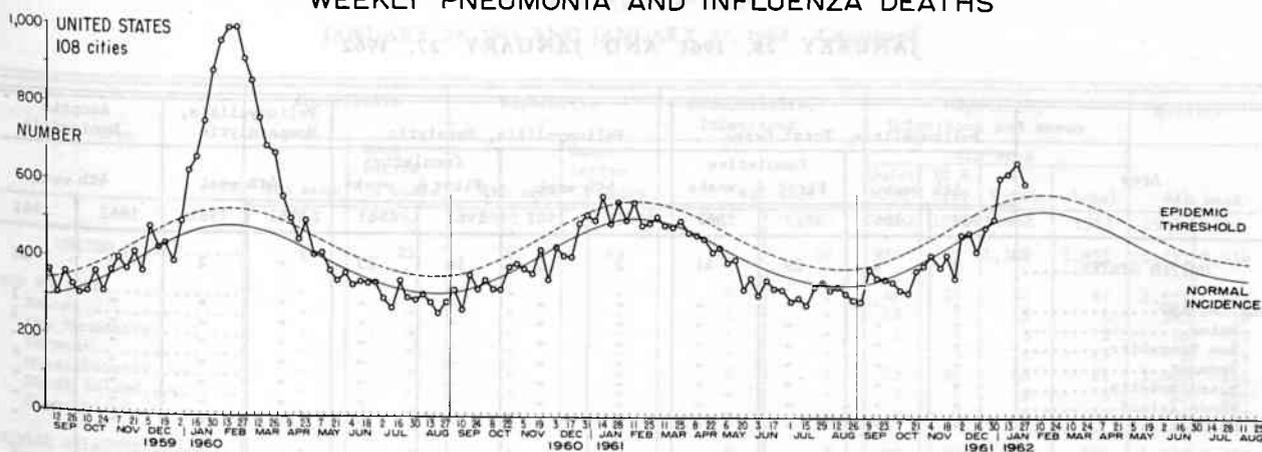
Samples of turkey, roast beef, and gravy were available for laboratory examination. No food poisoning organisms were found in the samples of turkey or roast beef examined. *Clostridium perfringens* was isolated from the gravy. Samples of the commercial beef base used in the gravy were negative. Nose and throat cultures of the meat cooks were negative.

The laboratory of the Connecticut State Department of Health routinely does anaerobic cultures on all samples of food examined in relation to food-borne outbreaks, except when epidemiological evidence strongly suggests that the outbreak is staphylococcal.

Two other outbreaks apparently due to *Clostridium perfringens* were identified in Connecticut in 1961, through this routine use of anaerobic cultures. One of these oc-

(Continued on page 32)

WEEKLY PNEUMONIA AND INFLUENZA DEATHS



SUMMARY OF DEATHS AMONG PERSONS 65 YEARS AND OVER IN 108 UNITED STATES CITIES

The chart below shows the average weekly number of deaths among persons 65 years and over by four-week periods. As in previous MMWR charts in this series, the "expected number" of deaths was computed by use of a Fourier Series with a linear trend component. One Fourier term was used in this chart.

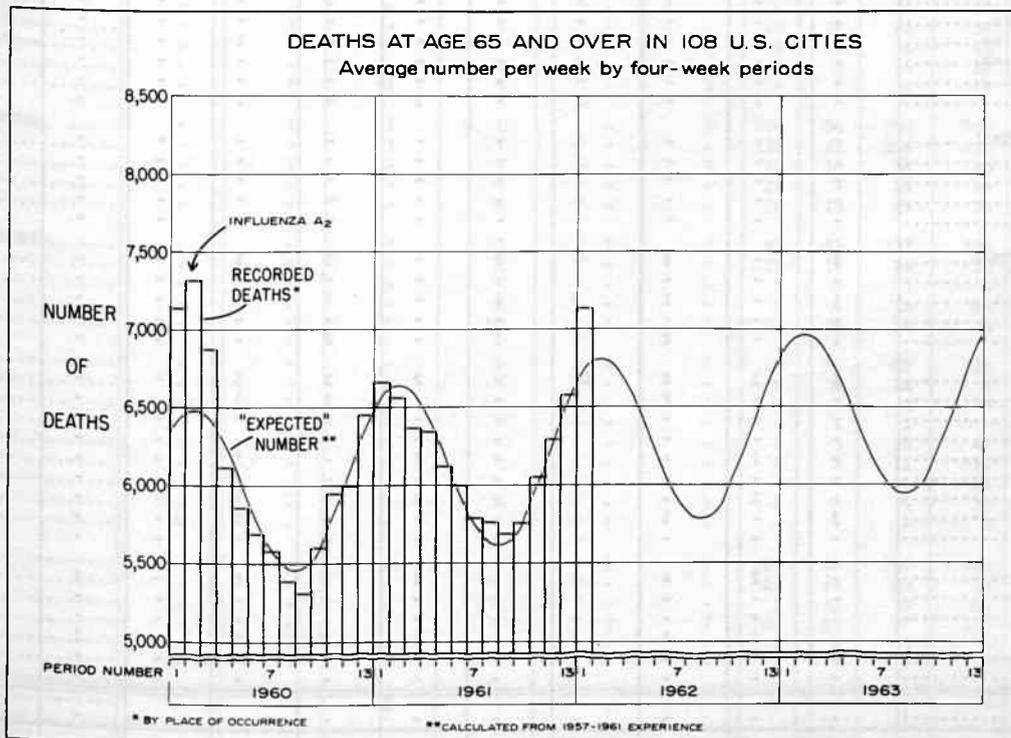
For the four-week period ending January 27th excess mortality (see table below) in persons 65 years of age and older averaged 395 deaths per week, about five percent above expected levels. The total number of deaths in elderly persons during this period of the current Influenza B epidemic was at about the same level as in the corresponding period (see chart)

of the 1960 Influenza A<sub>2</sub> epidemic. However, excess mortality has been considerably less in 1962. During the first four weeks of 1960 there was a total of approximately 2,900 excess deaths in comparison to a figure of approximately 1,600 excess deaths during the first four weeks of 1962.

Deaths 65 Years and Over Recorded in 108 United States Cities

	Week Ending:				4-Week Total	Weekly Average
	Jan. 6	Jan. 13	Jan. 20	Jan. 27		
Observed	6 970	7 250	7 150	7 164	28 534	7134
Expected	6 689	6 728	6 758	6 780	26 955	6739
Excess	281	522	392	384	1 579	395

DEATHS AT AGE 65 AND OVER IN 108 U.S. CITIES  
Average number per week by four-week periods



\* BY PLACE OF OCCURRENCE

\*\* CALCULATED FROM 1957-1961 EXPERIENCE

(See Table, page 31)







# Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report

Table 4 (D). TOTAL DEATHS AMONG PERSONS 65 YEARS AND OVER IN REPORTING CITIES

(Tables 4(A), 4(B), 4(C), and 4(D) will be published in sequence covering a four-week period.°

Area	For weeks ending				Area	For weeks ending			
	1/6/62	1/13/62	1/20/62	1/27/62		1/6/62	1/13/62	1/20/62	1/27/62
<b>NEW ENGLAND:</b>					<b>SOUTH ATLANTIC:</b>				
Boston, Mass.....	146	167	142	175	Atlanta, Ga.....	64	54	80	63
Bridgeport, Conn.....	27	30	21	25	Baltimore, Md.....	143	137	146	122
Cambridge, Mass.....	20	20	23	23	Charlotte, N.C.....	34	23	16	18
Fall River, Mass.....	21	27	24	26	Jacksonville, Fla.....	36	34	33	39
Hartford, Conn.....	17	25	28	25	Miami, Fla.....	40	50	60	43
Lowell, Mass.....	19	24	20	21	Norfolk, Va.....	29	25	34	19
Lynn, Mass.....	26	14	19	14	Richmond, Va.....	46	45	37	54
New Bedford, Mass.....	22	20	16	16	Savannah, Ga.....	14	12	23	29
New Haven, Conn.....	20	17	24	28	St. Petersburg, Fla.....	70	75	80	70
Providence, R.I.....	37	45	45	31	Tampa, Fla.....	45	38	57	49
Somerville, Mass.....	11	13	17	10	Washington, D.C.....	109	100	103	83
Springfield, Mass.....	31	27	23	35	Wilmington, Del.....	29	12	31	24
Waterbury, Conn.....	16	23	23	21	<b>EAST SOUTH CENTRAL:</b>				
Worcester, Mass.....	45	45	31	43	Birmingham, Ala.....	52	33	60	58
<b>MIDDLE ATLANTIC:</b>					Chattanooga, Tenn.....	32	22	26	55
Albany, N.Y.....	18	27	34	25	Knoxville, Tenn.....	16	20	24	20
Allentown, Pa.....	30	15	25	21	Louisville, Ky.....	46	102	65	86
Buffalo, N.Y.....	84	82	63	94	Memphis, Tenn.....	66	60	98	83
Camden, N.J.....	27	22	24	25	Mobile, Ala.....	22	26	22	28
Elizabeth, N.J.....	21	21	24	22	Montgomery, Ala.....	13	25	21	26
Erie, Pa.....	30	37	27	25	Nashville, Tenn.....	49	41	55	33
Jersey City, N.J.....	58	30	46	34	<b>WEST SOUTH CENTRAL:</b>				
Newark, N.J.....	63	51	74	48	Austin, Tex.....	25	29	40	22
New York City, N.Y.....	1,020	1,070	1,001	938	Baton Rouge, La.....	20	18	17	21
Paterson, N.J.....	20	20	20	31	Corpus Christi, Tex.....	12	12	17	10
Philadelphia, Pa.....	232	257	270	312	Dallas, Tex.....	70	74	71	70
Pittsburgh, Pa.....	141	86	87	107	El Paso, Tex.....	17	19	25	36
Reading, Pa.....	29	23	16	18	Fort Worth, Tex.....	49	34	42	43
Rochester, N.Y.....	77	65	72	61	Houston, Tex.....	125	70	122	96
Schenectady, N.Y.....	17	20	11	19	Little Rock, Ark.....	37	27	50	34
Scranton, Pa.....	33	28	24	23	New Orleans, La.....	108	81	119	91
Syracuse, N.Y.....	24	42	35	34	Oklahoma City, Okla.....	37	65	34	30
Trenton, N.J.....	18	53	38	19	San Antonio, Tex.....	69	69	96	78
Utica, N.Y.....	21	28	19	19	Shreveport, La.....	26	30	29	53
Yonkers, N.Y.....	17	25	21	12	Tulsa, Okla.....	41	37	23	46
<b>EAST NORTH CENTRAL:</b>					<b>MOUNTAIN:</b>				
Akron, Ohio.....	32	22	38	35	Albuquerque, N. Mex.....	19	14	19	17
Canton, Ohio.....	20	31	16	15	Colorado Springs, Colo...	16	10	7	21
Chicago, Ill.....	440	485	479	477	Denver, Colo.....	65	70	93	66
Cincinnati, Ohio.....	110	118	110	117	Ogden, Utah.....	11	6	19	19
Cleveland, Ohio.....	117	104	123	122	Phoenix, Ariz.....	49	61	53	66
Columbus, Ohio.....	73	66	63	56	Pueblo, Colo.....	15	9	11	14
Dayton, Ohio.....	43	41	49	54	Salt Lake City, Utah.....	34	20	32	27
Detroit, Mich.....	206	203	256	214	Tucson, Ariz.....	26	31	29	23
Evansville, Ind.....	17	37	14	27	<b>PACIFIC:</b>				
Flint, Mich.....	26	26	20	28	Berkeley, Calif.....	16	16	14	27
Fort Wayne, Ind.....	22	30	19	23	Fresno, Calif.....	14	35	29	34
Gary, Ind.....	12	15	12	17	Glendale, Calif.....	34	36	34	29
Grand Rapids, Mich.....	38	28	36	27	Honolulu, Hawaii.....	18	10	24	25
Indianapolis, Ind.....	88	86	75	90	Long Beach, Calif.....	32	54	25	49
Madison, Wis.....	18	17	18	23	Los Angeles, Calif.....	360	363	318	341
Milwaukee, Wis.....	71	105	75	80	Oakland, Calif.....	63	79	48	79
Peoria, Ill.....	14	16	18	15	Pasadena, Calif.....	25	28	29	26
Rockford, Ill.....	21	19	9	29	Portland, Oreg.....	83	75	68	67
South Bend, Ind.....	14	31	25	24	Sacramento, Calif.....	47	42	44	37
Toledo, Ohio.....	67	79	65	64	San Diego, Calif.....	54	50	62	57
Youngstown, Ohio.....	29	42	31	30	San Francisco, Calif.....	102	150	131	117
<b>WEST NORTH CENTRAL:</b>					San Jose, Calif.....	25	39	25	32
Des Moines, Iowa.....	43	47	47	35	Seattle, Wash.....	74	93	83	91
Duluth, Minn.....	24	29	18	18	Spokane, Wash.....	37	43	34	46
Kansas City, Kans.....	23	24	14	19	Tacoma, Wash.....	38	32	24	37
Kansas City, Mo.....	78	77	97	96	San Juan, P.R.....	11	26	12	15
Lincoln, Nebr.....	26	13	17	11	<b>Current Week Mortality for 108 Selected Cities°</b>				
Minneapolis, Minn.....	75	79	67	111	4(A) Total Mortality, all ages.....	12,597			
Omaha, Nebr.....	48	50	24	50	4(B) Pneumonia-Influenza Deaths, all ages.....	601			
St. Louis, Mo.....	210	240	212	197	4(C) Total Deaths under 1 Year of Age.....	879			
St. Paul, Minn.....	38	58	45	51	4(D) Total Deaths, Persons 65 years and over.....	7,164			
Wichita, Kans.....	21	39	29	50					

Totals for previous weeks include reported corrections.

NOTE: All deaths by place of occurrence.

occurred at a cub scout dinner in February. Of 240 individuals attending this dinner, 75 experienced nausea, abdominal pain, and diarrhea 6 to 8 hours after eating. *Clostridium perfringens* was cultured from a sample of the roast beef used at this meal. The other outbreak was a family outbreak with 9 of 17 people who ate the dinner becoming ill 8 to 9 hours after the meal. The illness was mild and consisted of diarrhea and abdominal pain of a few hours duration, associated with slight nausea. *Clostridium perfringens* was found in smoked ham and in homemade cheese used at this meal.

(Reported by James C. Hart, M.D., Director, Division of Preventable Diseases, State of Connecticut Department of Health.)

Editor's Note: The incubation period in these three epidemics, 6 to 14 hours, and the clinical symptomology, mild illness with diarrhea and abdominal pain in the absence of vomiting, form a rather consistent clinical picture.

INTERNATIONAL NOTES - QUARANTINE MEASURES

Smallpox - Europe

**England** - Five new cases of smallpox have been reported in England bringing to 21 the total number of cases in the recent outbreak. Seven deaths have occurred. Three tertiary cases have occurred in Bradford where 11 cases had previously been reported. The other two cases were reported from Woolwich, a suburb of London, where a 36 year old insurance agent became ill with smallpox on January 13, and from Horn Church, Essex, where an individual became ill on January 30. The Horn Church case has not yet been confirmed.

**Germany** - No additional cases have been reported following the initial reports of 4 cases with one death in Dusseldorf, Germany.

Immunization Information for International Travel

1961 edition - Public Health Service Publication No. 384  
The following name should be added to the list of Yellow Fever Vaccination Centers in Section 6:

City	Center	Clinic Hours	Fee
Arizona Tucson	Pima County Health Department 161 W. Alameda Street Tel: MA 3-0571	Friday, 3 p.m. by appointment	Yes

Notes: These provisional data are based on weekly telegrams to the Communicable Disease Center by the individual State health departments.

Symbols: --- Data not available  
- Quantity zero

Procedures for construction of various mortality curves may be obtained from Statistics Section, Communicable Disease Center, Public Health Service, U. S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, Atlanta 22, Georgia.

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